



## 2012 "VOLUNTEERS WORKING WITH INVASIVES" GRANTS REPORT FORM

### Display Report

#### PROJECT BACKGROUND INFORMATION

<b>Project Title:</b>	Wetland Invasive Plant Search and Control	
<b>Region: Use region number ONLY</b>	1	
<b>Station:</b>	Ridgefield NWR	
<b>Contact Person:</b> Name and Phone Number	Lynn Cornelius 360-887-3883	
<b>Project Description:</b> (Up to 250 words)	This project would expand survey, control, and monitoring efforts to detect new wetland invasive plant threats and continue reduction of the accumulation of recently documented populations. Primary target species will be ricefield bulrush, fragrant water lily, yellow water iris, purple loosestrife, indigobush, reed canarygrass, and new species as discovered. Funds are requested for supplies and for salary/benefits costs for a 3-month Ricefield Bulrush Volunteer Field Leader for 2013, a 3-month STEP Invasive Plant Technician to accelerate search and applicator work with volunteers in 2012, and partial funding for a Restoration Coordinator through the Friends of Ridgefield NWR for 2013. Funds will be obligated in FY 2012. The project will take place from June 1, 2012 - Sept 30, 2013, with most work taking place in 2013. The Coordinator, STEP Field Leader and volunteer invasive plant hunters will survey 1,000 acres for ED/RR of invasive plant species. Approximately 90 acres containing target invasive plants will be spot treated: 44 acres through pulling/digging with volunteer crews and 40 acres with herbicide treatment by the Coordinator, STEP Field Leader and licensed volunteer herbicide applicators. Control work will prevent seed set, and reduce invasive occurrences treated by an estimated 70%. Approximately 400 volunteer hours are expected in 2013. Funds will be combined with other annual habitat restoration grant funding.	
<b>List of Invasives Species Targeted:</b>	<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>
	ricefield bulrush	<i>Schoenoplectus mucronatus</i>
	fragrant water lily	<i>Nymphaea odorata</i>
	yellow flag iris	<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>
	purple loosestrife	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>
	Japanese knotweed	<i>Polygonum cuspidatum</i>
	indigobush	<i>Amorpha fruticosa</i>
	reed canarygrass	<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>
	tansy ragwort	<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>

	poison hemlock	<i>Conium maculatum</i>
<b>Project Status:</b>	Completed	
<b>Project Completion Date or Estimated Completion Date:</b> (mm/dd/yyyy)	09/30/2013	

## VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

<b>Volunteer Affiliation:</b> (Check all that apply)	VA_FriendsGrp VA_Scouts VA_SchoolGrp VA_AmeriCorps VA_CivicOrg VA_Other
<b>Volunteer Involvement:</b> Describe the type of work the volunteers performed. (Up to 150 words)	Volunteer crews dug ricefield bulrush plants. Volunteer herbicide applicators renewed state licenses and treated invasives by truck, boat, ATV, backpack and bottle sprayers to avoid non-target impacts and allow re-colonization by other preferred plants. Volunteer Invasive plant hunters took annual field training and searched on foot, ATV, boat, and canoe and recorded occurrences on maps and by GPS.
<b>Total Number of Volunteers:</b>	251
<b>Total Number of Volunteer Hours:</b>	1005
<b>Partnerships:</b> List both new and existing partnerships utilized in this project. (Up to 150 words).	Partners are the Friends of Ridgefield NWR, The City of Ridgefield, Gee Creek Enhancement Committee, Clark County Vegetation Management, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Washington Department of Natural Resources, adjoining private landowners, and area volunteers.

## PROJECT RESULTS

<b>Project Results:</b> Give an overview of the results of the project. Include quantifiable measure of success, such as maps produced, efficacy of control measures, number of sites where invasions were detected early and responded to, number of community contacts, etc. (Up to 250 words).	A seasonal USFWS STEP Applicator Field Leader position was hired by the Refuge in 2012 using \$7,000 in project funds. The remaining \$13,000 in funds was obligated to the Friends of Ridgefield NWR in September FY 2012. All \$13,000 were spent in 2013 - \$2,657 for supplies and equipment and \$10,343 for coordinator salaries - \$6,156 for a seasonal ricefield bulrush field coordinator and \$4,187 for Habitat Restoration Project Coordinator salary. Project funds complemented other grant funding. The project completed the following proportion of annual invasive plant project tasks in 2012 and 2013: More than 21 volunteer visits contributed 96 hours to combine with coordinator and AmeriCorps member time to search for invasive plants over 1,835 acres of refuge and adjoining state and private lands and waters. Four important new discoveries were made as the result of EDRR searches in 2013: one species new to the Refuge and new disjunct locations for 3 other species. Licensed volunteer applicators made 38 visits in 2012 and 2013 to work with the coordinator, contributing 229 hours to spray plants across 255 acres. Seasonal field coordinators recruited and directed volunteers making 190 visits and contributing 680 hours to pull 34,900 ricefield bulrush from 92 primary acres in FY 2012 and 2013; In September 2012 and 2013, Refuge staff disked approximately 14 acres at three bulrush wetlands to flush and deplete the bulrush seed bank. Two new transects to monitor spray/disk results were established in 2012 and all 3 were sampled in 2013.
<b>Number of Acres Treated:</b>	347
<b>Number of Acres Inventoried and/or Mapped:</b>	1,835
<b>Number of Acres Restored:</b>	0

## BUDGET INFORMATION

**Budget:** Account for funds in broad categories such as equipment, volunteer stipends, travel, coordinator salary/contract, etc.

<b>Total Grant Amount:</b>	\$ \$20,000
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**Breakdown of Expenditures:**

Category	Total \$ Spent	% of Total Grant
Equipment / Supplies	\$2,657	13%
Chemical		
Biocontrol Agents		
Travel		
Volunteer Stipends		
Volunteer Coordinator Salary/Contract	\$17,343	87%
Restoration Materials		
Other		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

<b>Recommendations:</b> (OPTIONAL) How useful was this program for meeting refuge invasive species objectives and how can it be improved?	This program funding remains an essential base component of invasive plant control work with volunteers at Ridgefield NWR. Annual grant funding is necessary to maintain a full-time project coordinator to build on the momentum of early detection/rapid response and annual control work gained over the last 7 years, accomplishing objectives in the Refuge's Comprehensive Conservation Plan. Funds awarded were combined with NFWF PTI grant and Ridgefield NWR Station Funds.
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